Christmas Greetings

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Has it been a good year for you?

THE shades of yesteryear will soon be drawn on 1956. For some it has been a fruitful year, while others have known disappointment and frustration. Some have realised cherished ambitions and others have seen fondest hopes fade away.

Some will have the faith to rise above their failures while others will be swallowed up in forlorn discouragement.

With Longfellow we would say:

> " Look not mournfully into the past,
> It comes not back again,
> But wisely improve the present,
> It is thine."

The hope of the future rests in the knowledge that what has been today need not be so tomorrow. The power is in man to shape his destiny in the pursuits that are most meaningful.

To do this we need, more than ever, a sound unchanging set of standards by which to measure each day's worth. The enduring values are simple and within the reach of all who will lift their eyes above the things of the world.

No day has been lost if, at its close, we are a little better than we were —more tolerant of other's weaknesses—more sympathetic towards the unfortunate—more considerate of other's views—less critical of those who lead us and less demanding of those who serve us.

No day has been barren in which our sum total of happiness has been increased—more gratitude for friends manifest—more appreciation for Church fellowship shown—our families brought closer in the bonds of love.

It has been a good year if our knowledge of eternal truth has enlarged —our love of service increased—our willingness to obey strengthened—our capacity to give of ourselves and means are expanded.

It has been a good year for us if our prayers are more fervent—our spirits more humble—our vision a little clearer—our testimony a little brighter—our souls more mellowed.

These are fruits of Gospel living within the reach of all who are willing to seek them. These are rungs in the ladder of character and the only substance we can take with us—they are tried and true sources of the " Abundant life ". By these standards we can answer the question: HAS IT BEEN A GOOD YEAR FOR YOU?

C.G.M.K.

President
David O. McKay

CHRISTMAS *and* PERMANENT PEACE

"AND suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:13-14).

Such was the glorious message that accompanied the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem nearly two thousand years ago. Since then, as nations celebrate the event, people enjoy for a day at least the joys of Christian brotherhood, and realise in part what it would mean to mankind if peace and the goodwill of Christmas could be made a permanent reality.

To permanently gain this feeling of "peace, good will toward men," men and nations must have a change of heart. Hate and envy, suspicion and greed, must be supplanted by sympathy, forbearance, tolerance, and justice before the hoped-for time comes that "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:4).

Man's suspicion and lack of trust is one of the greatest enemies of peace. Nations are distrustful of one another. This lack of confidence in one's fellow man is even more of an individual than a national vice. We are prone to magnify weaknesses and to imagine vices in others that do not exist.

Every true Christian, and especially every faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, should be militant in defending the principles of the gospel as given by our Lord and

Saviour, for, in the words of Mark Hopkins, true Christianity "promotes industry, honesty, truth, kindness. It humbles the proud, exalts the lowly, upholds law, favours liberty, is essential to it, and would unite men in one great brotherhood. It is the breath of life to social and civil well-being here, and spreads the azure of that heaven into whose unfathomed depth the eye of faith loves to look."

There has been but one perfect character in the world—the peerless personality of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world. No man can do better than accept Christ as the great Exemplar and the safest Guide.

It is not an easy thing in this old world to make God the centre of our being. To do so we must determine to keep His commandments. Spiritual attainment, not physical possessions, not the indulgence and the gratification of the body, must be the chief goal.

Only in the complete surrender of our inner life may we rise above the selfish, sordid pull of nature. We should seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. What the spirit is to the body, God is to the spirit. As the body dies when the spirit leaves it, so the spirit dies when we exclude God from it. I cannot imagine peace in a world from which God and religion are banished.

I know of no force so potent in eradicating these and all other enemies of peace from the human heart as the gospel of Jesus Christ. True religion is today the world's greatest need—a sense by the individual of a relationship with God—that indefinable something which enters into the soul of man and which unites him with his Creator.

Only through the application of righteous principles by individuals and by governments, can nations learn war no more, and establish a permanent peace.

It is the spirit of the gospel of Jesus Christ, obedience to which will bring "peace on earth," because it means—goodwill toward all men.

May the peace of our Father in heaven abide in your hearts as you draw near to Him in prayer and in praise this Christmastide. May the sick be restored; the sorrowing be comforted; the lonely have their hearts lifted, and the weary be rested: the needy be fed; may the doubting receive assurance; and may evil and designing men be confounded.

With all my heart I wish the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in all the world, and mankind everywhere, the joys of the Christmas season and that those joys will lift them up into a realm where we would do to each other as we would have each other do unto us.

From the December 1956 *Improvement Era.*

Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men. Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life.

2 Nephi 31:20

On a Day's Journey . . .

ELDER RICHARD L. EVANS
The Quorum of the Twelve

IN crossing half a continent recently—some fifteen hundred miles by train between Chicago and Salt Lake City—I opened at random the Doctrine and Covenants from time to time, and was much moved over and over again by the richness of its wisdom, the sureness of its inspiration, and by the strength and purpose of its message both to members and missionaries.

The book which I still carry with me is the same copy that I carried for nearly three years in the British Mission—nearly thirty years ago. It opened first to Section 58, and these comforting words I found in thumbing through:

"For verily I say unto you, blessed is he that keepeth my commandments, whether in life or in death; and he that is faithful in tribulation, the reward of the same is greater in the kingdom of heaven . . . for after much tribulation come the blessings." D. & C. 58:2, 4.

And then at random my eyes rested on some verses to missionaries, and to others also:

"Behold, verily I say unto you, for this cause I have sent you—that you might be obedient, and that your hearts might be prepared to bear testimony of the things which are to come." D. & C. 58:6.

"For, verily, the sound must go forth from this place into all the world, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth—the gospel must be preached unto every creature, with signs following them that believe." D. & C. 58:64.

"But with some I am not well pleased, for they will not open their mouths, but they hide the talent which I have given unto them, because of the fear of man . . . " D. & C. 60:2.

"Thou shalt not idle away thy time, neither shalt thou bury thy talent that it may not be known." D. & C. 60:13.

"Behold, the Lord requireth the heart and a willing mind . . . "

"Wherefore, be not weary in well-doing, for ye are laying the foundation of a great work. And out of small things proceedeth that which is great." D. & C. 64:33, 34.

"Wherefore, if ye believe me, ye will labour while it is called today." D. & C. 64:25.

". . . and inasmuch as they are faithful they shall be preserved, and I, the Lord, will be with them." D. & C. 61:10.

A little later, after writing and other work, I marked these and other verses in random reading:

"Let no man break the laws of the land, for he that keepeth the laws of God hath no need to break the laws of the land." D. & C. 58:21.

"Behold he who has repented of his sins, the same is forgiven, and I the Lord, remember them no more.

"By this ye may know if a man repenteth of his sins—behold, he will confess them and forsake them." D. & C. 58:42, 43.

And on into the night these thoughts refreshed my soul:

"Thou shalt thank the Lord thy God in all things." D. & C. 59:7.

"Verily I say, that inasmuch as ye do this, the fullness of the earth is yours . . . and the good things which come of the earth . . .

"Yea, all things which come of the earth, in the season thereof, are made for the benefit and the use of man, both to please the eye and to gladden the heart; . . . to strengthen the body and to enliven the soul.

"And it pleaseth God that he hath given all these things unto man; for unto this end were they made to be used, with judgment, not to excess, neither by extortion.

"And in nothing doth man offend God, or against none is his wrath kindled, save those who confess not his hand in all things, and obey not his commandments." D. & C. 59:16-21.

And this, of comfort and encouragement to all:

"And now, verily I say unto you, and what I say unto one I say unto all, be of good cheer, little children; for I am in your midst, and I have not forsaken you;

"And inasmuch as you have humbled yourselves before me, the blessings of the kingdom are yours." D. & C. 61:36, 37.

And ". . . unto him that keepeth my commandments I will give the mysteries of my kingdom, and the same shall be in him a well of living water, springing up unto everlasting life." D. & C. 63:23.

This day's journey, which ran around the clock, used one of 25,000 days, which is the length of this life if we begin counting at birth and live until the age of seventy—25,000—and each of these days is part of our record, and part of our opportunity on earth.

There is much that can be made of the in-between-times—of the few moments there are in any interval.

I used to watch my late beloved friend and former Mission President, Dr. John A. Widtsoe, thinking, writing, at almost every odd moment—whether at his desk, or waiting for a train, or waiting for people to come to call. But he didn't just wait. He didn't let others rob him of any large part of the length of his life by leaving blank spaces. He wrote books—more than a score of them—and articles, and tracts and pamphlets, and scientific papers—hundreds of them—and thought far reaching plans and purposes in the in-between-times, and seldom for any of them did he set a day aside. He used the in-between-times—at home or away. He didn't postpone and he didn't wait. He used what he had when he had it. He began where he was, and did what he could with whatever was available.

Such were some of the thoughts on a recent day's journey—with thoughts of home, thoughts of far away places, thoughts of pressing problems, thoughts of great eternal purposes: thoughts of the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; thoughts of the Prophet Joseph through whom God brought it about; thoughts of our Saviour who did for us what we could not do for ourselves, and who has given us a knowledge of what we can and must do for ourselves.

Such were the thoughts of a day's journey—with some others added also—for loved ones far away—and for friends across the sea.

"But learn that he who doeth the works of righteousness shall receive his reward, even peace in this world, and eternal life in the world to come." D. & C. 59:23.

Mary

She must have wondered that she could belong
To such a scene: the star, the stable birth,
The silent animals, the trampled earth,
The wise men, and the herald angels' song.
The memory within her heart was strong
To lift her far above all pain and worth
The cruelty behind her neighbours' mirth—
A treasured thought no covert sneer could wrong.

For she had been so proud (yet fearful lest
The strangers talk too much, the lyrical
Sweet voices wake the child upon her breast)—
So conscious of the blessed miracle
That nothing in life had power to dismay
One who had known the glory of that day!

by Pansye H. Powell

Improvement Era

CHRISTMAS CONVERSATION

"WELL, Christmas will soon be here again" said the man wearing the grey trilby, who always sat in the middle seat facing the engine on the 8.41 a.m.

"Yes—isn't it amazing how time flies?" said the lady with the green hat and sharp feather, sticking straight up.

"Don't seem twelve months since last Christmas—does it?" said the man in the light raincoat and red muffler who always sat next to her.

"Ah, Christmas isn't what it used to be" said the man in the grey trilby.

"You're right there" said the man in the blue duffle coat, who always sat in the opposite corner to green hat and feather.

"Do you really think that's true?" said the green hat and feather. She always sat in the corner seat with her back to the engine. She always carried a brown bag, and wore knitted gloves to match her hat—or nearly match it.

"Well," said grey trilby, "It doesn't seem the same to me."

"That's a different thing" said green hat and feather.

"It don't seem the same to me either" said red muffler.

"What's different about it?" suddenly said the man in the corner diagonally opposite to green hat and feather.

There was always conversation in this compartment of the 8.41 a.m.—but the last speaker joined in infrequently. Thus the challenge of his question caused a slight hiatus.

He can only be described as nondescript in appearance, yet distinguished, facially. Not handsome. A weather-roughened face, beaten and worn by strong sun and wild wind in places where there had been little to protect him from either. But the eyes were grey and very wise. We shall call him the wise man.

Grey trilby ventured the first reply with his usual preamble: "Well—"

"When I was a boy," he continued, "I think we appreciated Christmas more than the children do today."

"Do you mean that children do not look forward to Christmas as much as you used to" said green hat, carefully.

"That's exactly what I do mean" said grey trilby.

"And I support him there" said red muffler. "Why," he continued, "when I was a boy, at this time of the year, we'd all be nosing round the shops, choosing what we wanted Father Christmas to bring us."

"Yes, that's right" said blue duffle, who generally agreed.

"Not that we ever got what we chose, of course" said grey trilby. "My people were too poor to give us much.

"But we did really appreciate what we got, didn't we?" said red muffler, "because we never really expected much, and although we chose a lot in the shop windows, we knew we shouldn't get it."

"And if ever the old man did earn a bit of extra and give us something special what a treat it was! We'd tell all the kids in the street about it. It was the best thing

in the world at the best time of the year! "

" You don't think " said green hat and feather, " that perhaps you're not appreciating Christmas like you used to because "—she hesitated,—" because you're older now—do you? " in her sweetest manner.

" Ah! " exclaimed the blue duffle—with a suggestion of hidden meaning.

" Well—" began grey trilby.

" My youngsters don't seem to appreciate Christmas like we did " said red muffler more decisively.

" How old are your children? " asked green hat and feather.

" Sixteen and seventeen and a half " answered red muffler.

" You'd hardly call them children, would you? " said green hat and feather.

" That's right " agreed blue duffle.

" If you had very young children about you " continued green hat and feather, " I'm sure you'd realise that Christmas is just as much a time of great expectation to them as it was to you."

" Well, I've got grandchildren " said red muffler, " three of 'em, and they seem much more difficult to buy for than I was. For a start, they seem to have everything already."

" Too true," said grey trilby quickly, " I've a nephew and neice under ten, and I have the greatest trouble thinking out what to buy for them.

" Ever tried buying 'em something simple " suddenly said the wise man from the corner.

"There isn't anything simple any more " said red muffler sadly.

" Right you are " said blue duffle.

" There's no doubt about it " said grey trilby with feeling, " the children of this day and age have a lot more than we ever had. And they never seem to be satisfied with it."

" Whose fault is that? " asked green hat and feather.

" Whose fault—? " echoed red muffler.

" Yes. Don't forget " said green hat, " you have matured to the point of being happy with a pair

of socks on the Christmas tree for yourself. You're satisfied with utility gifts. Now, the very fact that you are in a better position than your parents were, causes you, quite naturally, to want to share your modern prosperity with your own—as most parents do. Perhaps, in choosing the better things available, you lose sight of the real needs of your children."

"Well,—" ventured grey trilby, "you don't expect us to buy the kids pop-guns when they want disintegrator ray units, do you?"

"Course not. What would their mates say?" said red muffler.

"I am a Sunday school teacher and a child welfare worker," said green hat and feather, firmly, "and I feel strongly that parents, aunts and uncles do not understand their children these days. Half the so-called 'problem children' are adult creations. I do not refer to anybody present, of course, but people themselves are developing the youth hooligans they so much decry. They do not try to understand the child mind." She concluded with a wag of her head that caused the feather in her green hat to cleave the air above her like a two-edged sword.

No one said anything for several moments.

"What's different about Christmas?" came from the wise man in the corner.

"What's different—?" echoed red muffler.

"Yes. Is it not the same festival we're celebrating?" asked the wise man.

"If you're referring to the birth of our Saviour—" began green hat and feather.

"I am" said the wise man firmly, "and the answer is—there is no difference. We are still celebrating the greatest event of earth's creation. I am a traveller folks, and I've spent Christmas where there was nothing conventional to remind one that it was Christmas. From the Australian bush to the Arctic wastes. From the tropic sands to the steaming jungle. From places where there wasn't a tree for miles to places where there were Christmas trees all round me. But I've always tried to remember what Christmas was about."

Green hat and feather opened her mouth to speak—but the phrase went unuttered.

The wise man continued. "Why do we give gifts at Christmas anyway?" He paused. "I don't suppose half the people who do it recognise the custom begun nineteen and a half centuries ago by those who brought presents to the new-born Jesus. If people would remember that the spirit of giving, and love and sacrifice that goes with it, should be the motivating force behind it all—then perhaps the world would be a better place to live in,—for all of us. It's great to celebrate of course. But who ever thinks of what we're celebrating? We perpetuate the convention of a much lesser 'Saint' named Nicholas, a good man indeed, and we have popularised an occasion, sacred by its original divine nature. Think about it friends—" he concluded, "see you tomorrow." and he alighted as the train stopped.

As the door slammed there was a brief silence and then green hat and feather was repeating:

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

" And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

" And the angel of the Lord said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

" For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

" I reckon that chap knew what he was talking about " said blue duffle as the train drew into the terminus.

J.P.H.

PRES. JOHN L. HARMER
2nd Councillor
British Mission

THE ONLY TRUE GIFT

" THE only true gift is a portion of thyself." This statement by the great poet philosopher, Emerson, gives me the thought that I would like to express to the Saints of Great Britain at this wonderful time of the year. The thought of giving a gift at Christmas time is to draw our attention to the gift of the Saviour to all mankind; His life and atonement. So we, in the spirit of giving, strive to be able to do for each other in some small way what He did for all the children of our Father. However, the thought often has come to me that we make one rather unfortunate mistake in our giving, for although we seem to gain the spirit of giving, the gift itself often takes on unnecessary importance. It was the nature of the Saviour's gift that made it so precious and wonderful. He gave it selflessly, expecting nothing in return, and above all, he gave it for eternity.

The gifts that we give are so often gone within a few months, that not only the spirit but the gift itself has left us. Wouldn't it be a much wiser and more lasting thing if we could also find eternal gifts, gifts that will last for ever, to give to those that we love. Surely there are things that those closest to us need if they are to have the ultimate in happiness that the gospel makes us desire. Is there not a gift that every day we may give to that Father who blessed us with life? For your husbands and wives, in addition to the gifts usually offered, couldn't there be found a gift that came as part of yourself, a gift that would be lasting and uniting in its nature. To a child, long after broken toys and dolls are gone, the gift of an hour each day to use together, the gift of something that will be used or created together, will be treasured and remembered with love and gratitude.

My own mother and father have blessed me with much throughout life, but there are two gifts that I shall never forget, and never cease to be grateful for. Because of her skill and talent as an author, my mother's life has been a dual

one, for she must still be mother and wife, while working long and hard on books and stories to be written. In view of this great demand on her time, it would have been easy for her to have found less time than most mothers to spend with her children, but such was never the case. Many of the most pleasant hours of my life have been spent with her sharing the joys and experiences, the desires and conflicts, the sorrows and errors of growing up, for her gift to me was to forget her own life to live with me in mine. Half the fun of doing something well was the thrill of re-living it with her. From my Father came a similar gift, of a different expression. For a year or more before my mission call came we spent the first hour of each day together reading in the scriptures, and discussing their application and importance in life. No more influencing or benefiting thing could have been brought into my life, and I shall be grateful all my days for the gift that has so lovingly been given to me.

We approach now another Christmas time. Tradition and the natural desires of our hearts demand that the usual gifts, the shirts, the ties, the shoes and coats, the toys and dolls and pretty new things be present. But this Christmas, wouldn't it be wonderful if for every gift we offer that one day will be gone, we could find one to give that will live for ever, and then go on giving it each day. Even to our Father-in-Heaven the continual gift of gratitude could and should be offered day in and day out. Could we not search out and share those things that we may give, not for a price, but for love alone.

Years ago the Christ was crucified in the flesh by those who hated the things for which he stood. But He gave life again to that body which they destroyed. Lest we be careful we shall find ourselves guilty of crucifying Him again in the spirit, by destroying those things for which He worked and died to instill into our lives.

The world has put aside the message for which He gave Himself as a thing of no worth, and this it has done to make merchandise of His name and His gift. His message was "peace on earth, good will to all men." Their message is peace for a price, and goodwill to those who will profit them. He taught that love and work and the desire to serve were manifestations of the spirit of God. They of the world teach that he is a fool who would love another for love alone, that it is clever to get by in life by doing the least, and that service without reward is nonsense. His message was that man is God's creation, that our Father's work and glory was to exalt His children to divine capacity. They pretend to honour Him by exalting and embracing that which He sought to destroy. Men have declared themselves their own creators, and teach that man's greatest achievement is in the things of the world—things that soon enough will decay and be gone. Let us try this year to celebrate His birth as He would, and as He would want us to honour it and Him. His gift was for eternity, selflessly given and motivated by love and meekness. If we give in that same spirit, then no matter what the gift may be, it will be in remembrance of Him, and like His gift, could and should last for ever.

THE LITTLEST GIFT

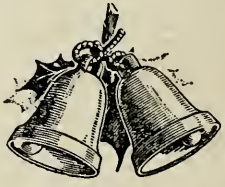
Bryan B. Gardner

I'M the Christmas gift Dad's got for Mum. I'm not big or bulky, not especially colourful or in any way fabulous, but I thought Mum would like me: anyway I hoped so, and so did Dad.

Dad's been very careful with me: he took an awful long time

before deciding that I was the gift he wanted most of all to give Mum. And he's been looking at me regularly, almost in a proud and cherished way, to see that I'm as near perfect as doesn't matter. The last few weeks, too, he's kept me in a safe place, out of the way of the youngsters and away from where Mum usually rummages about. Oh yes, Mum's like most other women, just loves to look around and see what her husband's got her for Christmas and then makes a great pretence of "What a surprise!" and "Just what I wanted!" on the day, when she knew all about the special gift weeks before. But that's not such a bad fault, is it? and Dad knows about it anyway, though he's never let on. Mum thinks she has her secret, while Dad gets a good private laugh and keeps on thinking up new hiding places all the time. Mum never has found me!

Mum and Dad are poor. There's not even a penny to spare in the home, what with the taxes, as Dad smilingly comments, and then the bad illness this year of both the youngsters, and the general trying-to-get-by living expenses. The last eighteen months or so life's been pretty rugged; but Dad never has



complained, nor Mum either. She sustains him in all that he does, and when things get a little extra difficult they just love each other more than ever, pull in their belts, and keep faith in God.

It's a happy home with love and the practise of doing what's right dominating the whole place. Lots of people come by for a chat—even though more often than not Mum can't even offer them refreshments—purely because of the friendly and wholesome atmosphere.

As a matter of fact, one of our visitors nearly discovered me the other night: Dad had hidden me in a corner of the settee for the evening—Mum always relaxes in her own favourite old armchair—and evidently this great big man (why, he must have weighed at

least 16 or 17 stone) flopped down on the settee. You can imagine how I felt. One moment I was snugly nestling in a corner, minding my own business, and the next I was practically smothered. I was so taken by surprise that I squeaked out loud, and I think Dad must have heard me because he very hurriedly suggested to the big gentleman that he should take the more comfortable armchair. As they changed places and Dad sat oh so lightly on another part of the settee, I could feel his fingers very gently touching me through the wrapping paper to see if I was broken. Then I felt quite ashamed of squeaking, because really I was quite all right—just a little bruised and shaken up, but nothing serious.

Anyway, Dad managed to keep me hidden right up to Christmas Day. I think both he and Mum were fully as excited as their children when they all came into the front room this morning, with the

youngsters scurrying around and yelling and having a real good time. The folks clasped hands as they stood and looked at the miniature Christmas tree (actually a branch of a fir tree that Dad had been able to cut up a couple of days ago), with some candles alight and the little presents grouped around the base of the tree, and even one or two rather precariously hanging from the smaller limbs.

When Mum caught sight of me she knew that I must be Dad's present to her, because I was the only

one that she hadn't wrapped. The children hadn't been able to do anything more than a couple of sheets of paper with the words "We love you Mum" and "Happy Christmas Dad" rather laboriously scrawled on them. Anyway, Mum turned a light shade of pink when

(*Continued on page* 395)

TO THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN . . .

Season's Greetings

A YEAR has passed since our arrival in England—a year filled with joy, satisfaction and evidence of progress which we have been privileged to share with the Saints and missionaries of the British Mission.

As evidence of progress, six more branch chapels have been acquired; bringing to sixty-two the number of church owned buildings, which includes a new Mission Headquarters in Kensington, London. Negotiations are under way for the purchase or construction of several others.

The Temple construction is progressing, but is behind schedule because of the wet summer, and problems associated with drainage of the area. However, the long awaited blessings of the Lord's House are near at hand.

Most of the existing branch buildings have undergone recent extensive repairs and renovations to the point where we can say, the Mission has never been better housed than at present, and the end is not yet.

The District Conferences have been well attended and the beautiful spirit of the Saints has warmed our hearts as we have met with you to "speak with one another concerning the welfare of our souls."

The growing strength of the Priesthood Quorums in numbers and brotherhoods is one of the most significant happenings of the year.

The increased payment of tithes has been a stirring evidence of your greater devotion to the cause of building up the Kingdom of God upon the earth. The reported increase in attendance of Sacrament meetings suggests further spiritual growth.

As Elder and Sister Adam S. Bennion toured the mission they were greeted with enthusiasm and loving response wherever they went. Their visit will stand as one of the highlights of 1956. Their manifestation of love and inspired utterances will long be remembered.

Well over five hundred fine sons and daughters of our Father in Heaven entered the waters of baptism and over one hundred children of

members were continued, by baptism, on the records of the church. It has been glorious to meet most of you new members and we rejoice in the sweetness of your spirits and your expressed desire to live the gospel. As we have heard your conversion stories our appreciation of the Gospel in our own lives has been enlarged.

The devotion of you missionaries, to your calling—your love for the people with whom you labour—your trust and confidence in our leadership, and oft expressed love—has given us encouragement and inspiration.

As we contemplate these events they become cherished experiences which fill our garden of memory with beauty, from which we find inspiration for increased effort in the future.

Our faith in, and our gratitude for the life and mission of Jesus Christ reaches a summit as we enter the Christmas Season. In solemn thanksgiving we extend our love to all of the British Mission and express appreciation for the opportunity of serving with you.

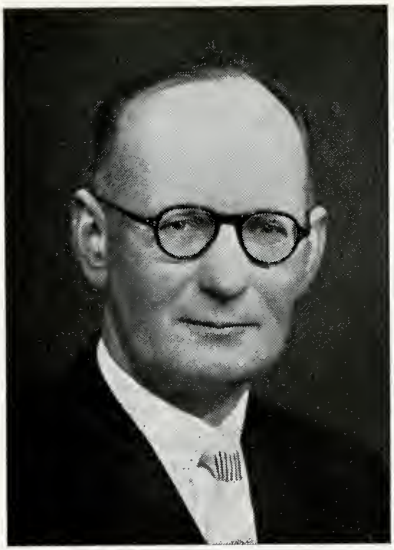
May the Yuletide Season be a happy one and the New Year rewarding and prosperous.

President and Sister Clifton G. M. Kerr and Sons.

The Kerr Family—

Front Row: **Sister Kerr; Nolan; President Kerr.**
Back Row: **John; Wm. Rolfe; C. Duane.**

London Office



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Mission President
Sunderland, Co. Durham

JOHN L. HARMER
2nd Counsellor to
Mission President
Salt Lake City, Utah

KAY H. CHRISTENSEN
Mission Secretary
Ephraim, Utah

DARREL J. BURNS
Literature Department
Salt Lake City, Utah

RICHARD L. EVANS, Jr.
Millennial Star
Salt Lake City, Utah

PATTY LOU REED
Mission Accountant
Glendale, California

HELOYCE F. HANSON
Secretary to Mission President
Salt Lake City, Utah

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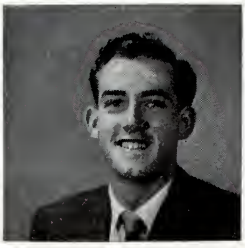

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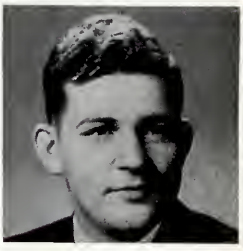

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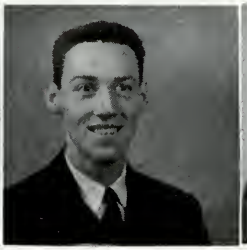
ROSEMARY S. WILLIAMS
Orinda, California



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CHARLES R. WRIGHT
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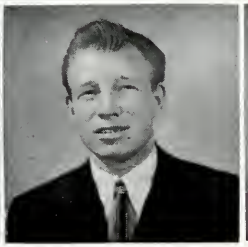
ALMA TINSON
Nottingham



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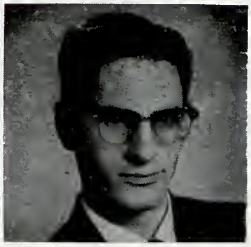

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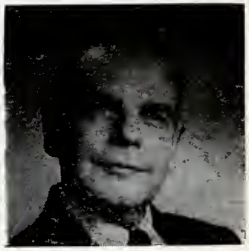

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Newton, Utah

she saw me, done up in all my gay finery; and she gave Dad a hug as she picked me up and pressed me here and there to try and guess what I was.

For a moment I was afraid maybe she'd be disappointed when she finally saw me: if the truth be told the wrapping paper really was a little too gay and bright for me. Dad hugged her back and said "Well, go on, open it up!" and then Mum tore off all the paper and gave a cry of sheer happiness as she looked at me.

Then she turned to Dad, eyes bright with the tears of joy and love, and said in a kind of choking little voice "Thank you, Darling." It was a touching scene to see them gaze into each other's eyes and know that it wasn't the expense of the gift, or the show of Christmas that was involved, but rather the thoughts behind it.

Oh, I guess you want to know what I am? Well, Dad had spent a good few hours carefully designing me on wood, cutting here and there, and polishing, polishing, polishing until I gleamed and shone and the grain of the wood showed in all its loveliness. He worked and worked until here I am, even though I do say it myself, a beautiful heart of finest wood with the

words "Eternal Love To My Sweetheart" inscribed in the centre.

Yes, that's what I am: a labour of love.

B.B.G.

Happy is the man, indeed, who can . . . be at rest and seek for no other road to peace than by the doctrines of Jesus Christ. His gospel teaches us to love our fellowmen, to do to others as we would have others do to us, to be just, to be merciful, to be forgiving, and to perform every good act calculated to enlarge the soul of man. His perfected philosophy teaches also that it is better to suffer wrong than to do wrong, and to pray for our enemies and for those who despitefully use us. There are no other gospels or systems of philosophy that bear these marks of divinity and immortality. You may hunt the philosophies of the world in vain for any code of ethics that insures the peace and rest that may be found in His comprehensive, yet simple gospel.

Joseph F. Smith

PEACE ON EARTH

Elder Richard L. Evans, Jr.

ONCE again Christians throughout the world are preparing to commemorate some of the sacred events of more than nineteen centuries ago—the birth of the Messiah and the opportunity for eternal life which he laid before us.

For a brief season, this Christmas spirit will prevail and will urge people everywhere to become more conscious of their fellow men, to "count their many blessings," and to draw closer to their Father in Heaven.

But in 1956, as in many of the years of the past, a part of the world will be largely deprived not only of the celebration of the occasion, but also of the true spirit of happiness and goodwill, because they have also been denied one of the greatest blessings of God to man—the right of freedom.

Many of us have never known in our own lives a real loss of freedom, and as in all things where we fail to experience both sides, we may also fail to fully appreciate their goodness and their value. Maybe it would take someone who had once known and then lost this blessed privilege to tell us just how dear it is, to tell us what it is to be deprived of the right of choice, to live where some have tried to enslave the minds and the thoughts and the actions of men.

When such freedom is lost, life also loses much of its purpose. The creation of this earth and the establishment of mankind upon it was accomplished primarily to "prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them." [1] Such a "proof" or test would not be fair or even possible unless man was left free to be an agent unto himself.

The Lord has given to his children upon the earth all of the knowledge and commandments necessary to their salvation, and then he has placed the responsibility upon them either to accept or to reject, to obey or to disobey, to walk the road to destruction or the road to life. To his prophets the Lord from the beginning has taught and stressed this basic right of free agency that he has given and guaranteed to man—freedom of thought, of choice, and of activity. With this principle as a basis of religion and of life, the Latter-day Saints "claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may."

The conflict between freedom and bondage has been a long one. Even before time began, a war was fought in heaven to preserve this freedom. During that conflict, Satan was defeated and his intent to dictate and enslave the souls of men was stopped. But in one form or another, his same plan has been presented to mankind here on the

earth many different times and by many different wicked men and groups of men. Their methods might have varied somewhat—some have been able to bargain freedom away from people; others have had to use force—but always their purpose and the end result was the same—the destruction of personal and national liberty. It is to guard against and avoid this, that righteous governments exist and laws established—" that every man may act in doctrine and principle pertaining to futurity, according to the moral agency which I have given unto him, that every man may be accountable for his own sins in the day of judgment. Therefore, it is not right that any man should be in bondage one to another."[2]

We are very fortunate to live under such circumstances which permit us to use to the fullest our power and right of free choice. Our opportunity is great and the responsibilty is upon us to use our personal liberty to its fullest advantage—to always " be anxiously engaged in a good cause," to work, to gain knowledge, to develop our talents, to do our part in the building up of the Kingdom of God, to grow in every facet of life, and to not idle away our time.

Again, at this holiday season as we reflect upon the birth and life of the Saviour of mankind, may we be grateful for our liberty to follow after Him, may we gain a greater appreciation of his sufferings and sacrifice for us and for his message of " peace on earth and good will toward men." May our prayers also be united for such a condition of peace and liberty among nations, that mankind everywhere might have the chance to enjoy the happiness and the growth that comes only through the opportunity to serve God and live righteously according to the dictates of their own conscience.

[1] Abraham 3:25.
[2] Doctrine & Covenants, 101:78-79.

The Sermon on the Mount

Branch and District Activities

Birmingham

On September 22, 60 members and friends attended a party in the Worcester Chapel in honour of the newly engaged couple, Sister June Nash and Mr. Ray Bawker. All enjoyed games, dancing and the singing of Miss Shirley Watkins one of the guests.

Bristol

A Hallowe'en Ball was held in Cheltenham on October 20. During the interval entertainment was provided by the missionaries who sang and played ukeleles.

The Cheltenham Branch have temporarily lost one of their very active young members, Brother Colin A. B. Price who has started a three-year course at London University after winning a major scholarship for chemical engineering.

Hull

The regular shows continued during October in the Hull Branch when on the 6th the Cubs staged their Gang Show under the title "The Legions of the Patron Saints". Forming a little feminine relief was a series of turns by the girls from the Bilton Grange Neighbourhood Sunday School, the whole being under the direction of Sister Madge Wilkinson, Cubmistress, and Sister Mary Stevens, Assistant Cubmistress. This was the first attempt by the Cubs at such a show and augers well for the future.

A Short play, written and produced by Sister Doris Scott was performed at Hull on October 27 and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Brother George d'Andilly continued later in the evening with some conjuring tricks which baffled all, and the evening finished with games and dancing.

October has found further progress being made on the Hull Chapel renovation. The building has been painted throughout and many other improvements have been made.

Grimsby M.I.A., held their Hallowe'en party on October 30. Admission was simply to go through a "Spook Alley" and as this was rigged up by the missionaries one can well imagine what it was like, what with corpses, ghosts, palefaces, remains and other things scattered about the building. Fancy dress was optional and it was found that getting apples out of a bowl of water is quite easy—when you know how! Another game which was played was to take a sixpence out of some flour with one's teeth.

Irish

Hallowe'en was celebrated in Belfast on October 31. There was lots to eat and prizes were awarded for the best fancy dress. The room was decorated to suit the occasion and gave the "Hallow-

Colchester Branch Relief Society at one of their recent activities

e'en " atmosphere very well. The evening was under the direction of Brother Paindavoine.

A District Talent Show was held on September 29 under the direction of President Jackson. Although this was a District show, Bangor played the major role with the inspiration of Sister Farbus. The programme was recorded and everyone had an enjoyable time. This was a very big day for Sister Farbus as she and her husband had been baptized earlier during the day.

Leeds

Bradford Relief Society heralded the new season with a special inaugural meeting which was attended by about twenty-five members and friends. A pie-supper and entertainment were provided and the strangers who attended certainly had a fine opportunity of learning about the happiness, friendliness and sisterly love to be found in the Relief Society.

In May a small printed card was distributed in Leeds, Sheffield, Hull and Manchester Districts. It annouced that a Junior Gleaner, Junior M-Men week-end convention would be held in Dewsbury. On September 8, twenty-five young people sat down to lunch together.

Inter-District games were played during the afternoon and Brother Herbert Walker kept everyone happy playing ball games, hockey and races.

An invitation was extended to the Gleaners and M-Men to be guests at the evening dance which had Brother G. Brown as M.C. The hall was colourfully decorated with achievement posters and emblems on the walls. A wonderful display of talent was given by the girls of Manchester and Leeds District.

Sunday was a beautifully spiritual and inspiring day. After breakfast President F. W. Oates led family prayer then Brother Stephen

J. Hawkes conducted a fireside with everyone joining in the discussion. Sister Crisp spoke on "Our Ideals as Youth in the Church" and Brother Hawkes on "The M.I.A., Programme and Awards to be Earned". At the close of the talks "Shall the Youth of Zion Falter" was sung. Twenty-five were present at the Testimony Meeting which was conducted by President Oates. Many fine testimonies were borne after which President Oates bore his own inspiring testimony.

With regret the parting took place at five o'clock the same day. On everyone's lips were the words "Goodbye, let's have another convention soon".

London

Newchapel enjoyed a travelogue given by Brother and Sister W. Stewart at a fireside held at the home of Brother and Sister Ronald Cunningham on October 14.

Newchapel House became a "Witches Hall" on the occasion of a hilarious Hallowe'en Party on October 30. Most of the Saints wore fancy dress and witches' brooms and toffee apples were a sticky success. Hair raising experiences, games and novel dances filled the evening.

Luton Relief Society held a jumble sale on October 27 and raised the sum of £25. This is the first sale of its kind to be held by the Luton Sisters who feel encouraged to try again in the not too distant future.

A farewell social in honour of Elders James Chapman and Marvin L. Howard was held at St. Albans on October 18. Included in the seventy-six who attended were President and Sister Kerr, members from Luton Branch and a large number of investigators and friends. Games were played under the direction of Brother Arthur Henderson and an exhibition of ballet dancing was given by Cynthia Wareham. Refreshments were looked after by the Relief Society. Speeches were made by President Kerr and the two elders.

Liverpool

Brother and Sister R. F. Jackson of Accrington have been blessed with the gift of a daughter born on 4th October. Brother Jackson is the son of President F. Jackson.

The M.I.A. have now finished their Summer project which was building a new stage complete with fittings and light effects.

The Liverpool District Preparation meeting was held in Blackburn on Saturday 13th October under the direction of President Robert F. Williams. Over 100 Saints from all parts of the District attended and the small Chapel was filled to capacity. The meeting was preceded by a bazaar organised by the Relief Society and £13 was realised for their funds. The Relief Society President Sister Dorothy L. Shorrock has been invited to speak to the Lees Hall Temperance Mission of Blackburn. This will be the fifth time she has done so. Sister Shorrock has also been asked to speak at two Congregational churches.

A social and "get together" was held on Saturday 27th October when 24 members and friends attended. Games and dancing were organised by President Herbert Shorrock.

In Burnley a social was held on Saturday 6th October in aid of the

Inter-District games held in Dewsbury, Leeds District

Building Fund. Fifty-one members attended including some from neighbouring branches and President and Sister Robert F. Williams. Dancing and games were held under the capable direction of President Albert Pickup, refreshments being provided by Branch members.

Elder Clarence G. Taylor took over the Branch Presidency on October 14th. Everyone wishes him well in his new responsibility.

A farewell social was held in Preston for Brother Michael and Sister Ellen Macaleer. Bro. Macaleer who is the District Genealogy Supervisor has been labouring for nearly three years at the County Records Office, Preston, and he has now been transferred to the Records Office at Chester. Following games and refreshments Brother and Sister Macaleer were presented with a set of table mats from the branch members.

During the month of October house parties were held in the homes of Brother and Sister Ronald Hay and Sister Ellen Nutter. The proceeds of both these parties were allocated to the Branch Sunday School Christmas Party Fund.

Manchester

On November 1, a farewell social was held in honour of Elder Snarr in the Stockport Branch. As a token of love and respect, a beautiful china ballerina was presented to him. After refreshments had been served, the evening was closed with the Saints singing " God Be With You Till We Meet Again ".

In recording the farewell of Elder Snarr the Manchester Districts Saints feel that they cannot let this fine elder depart without paying tribute to his resourcefulness. During his missionary activities, Elder Snarr came in contact with Mrs. Crowe, a blind lady who had lost interest in life and was feeling very disgruntled and certainly not in any fit mood to listen to the Gospel. Elder Snarr sensing this, loaned her a copy of " The Life Story of Helen Keller " written in Braille. Mrs. Crowe was so

impressed by this story that she began to take an interest in life and listened to the Gospel message brought to her by the Missionaries, so much so that Elder Snarr followed up by loaning her a Book of Mormon written in Braille. This lady is now a regular attender at the Wythenshawe Branch and told her experiences during the last conference.

Wythenshawe Relief Society held a Bring and Buy Sale on October 27 which proved very profitable. In the evening of the same day a Fancy Dress party tested the resourcefulness of the Saints in devising costumes. The first prizes went to Sister Edna Mills of Oldham who went as a " Baby's Layette " and Brother Kershawe of Wythenshawe who was dressed as " Old Mother Riley ". The best couple were Brother and Sister William Bates of Wythenshawe as " A Teddy Boy and a Teddy Girl ". Special mention should be made of Brother John Howard of Ashton-Hyde for his costume as Julius Cæsar ". The evening ended with a " Rock 'n' Roll " session.

Newcastle

Darlington Branch held their Hallowe'en party on October 30. The hall was very well decorated and the games were directed by Sister Joan Carbert and Brother Stanely Wroth.

A special Public Service was held

Members at the opening of the new branch in Rotherham, Sheffield District

in Sunderland on October 13 which was attended by over one hundred people. Presidents C. G. M. Kerr, F. W. Oates and W. K. Daines were the speakers. Sister Quayle sang Mallote's setting of the "Lord's Prayer". Everyone truly enjoyed the spirit of this occasion.

On Monday, October 15th, a farewell party was held in honour of President Daines who was being released to return home, after serving as Newcastle District President for five months. Games were played, refreshments served, and after a vote of thanks to President Daines, his successor, President Olsen was welcomed.

At the District Preparation Meeting on October 20, President William K. Daines was presented with a canteen of cutlery from the Saints as a token of appreciation for the wonderful way in which he has presided over the District. He has accomplished a great deal of good both as regards to proselyting and organisation and will be greatly missed by the Saints and his many friends.

The Newcastle Branch Primary enjoyed their Hallowe'en party on Friday, October 26th. Because of the rare assortment of spooks, witches, bats, cats, etc., the judges had a difficult task in awarding prizes for the best costumes. The children had a very good time in playing some traditional Hallowe'en games including bob apple.

The Newcastle District Bazaar and sale of work was held in Newcastle City Branch on November 3rd. Members travelled great distances bringing beautiful things which they had prepared. Sales however, were rather disappointing. Refreshments were afterwards served and the afternoon ended with a social in which all the members contributed in the form of tall stories, dancing displays, songs, poems and impersonations.

Nottingham

Members of the Fourth Quorum of Elders held a dinner and film show at the Nottingham Chapel on September 8. This was the first social event held by the Quorum in the District. Approximately thirty-six of the Priesthood were present to enjoy the splendid dinner, the cooking of which was by Brothers J. Fletcher, Harris and Hezeltine, all of the Nottingham Branch along with more willing hands. All of these brethren must be congratulated for the high standard of the meal. The film shown was of a Church Conference, and completed a very happy occasion.

Nottingham M.I.A. held a District square dance on October 13. A team from Nottingham Branch gave an exhibition square dance after which an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Scottish

Aberdeen have started Keep Fit classes under the direction of Brother Archibald Maxwell and most members have discovered muscles they did not know they possessed.

The M.I.A. at Aberdeen is holding dances once a month with a tuition period of one hour. Sister Lena Robertson is in charge of the tuition which is mostly for the benfit of the young members who have recently joined the M.I.A.

Welsh

A pre-Conference get-together was held at Cardiff on September 29. There were many side-shows and an amusing auction was held. The day finished with the Conway

Road Follies having their first opportunity of performing on a real stage.

On September 4, the Merthyr Tydfil Relief Society were invited to attend Sisterhood meeting at a Welsh Methodist Chapel. They received a very warm welcome from the seventy members of the Methodist Church who were present.

A programme was set out by the Relief Sisters and Sister Jean Hyer conducted and arranged the music. Sister Enid Reynolds spoke on "Religion" whilst Sisters June Drew and Florence Jones spoke on "The Evils of Profane Cursing and Swearing" and Gospel Principles. At the end of the meeting the Sisters received many kind and uplifting comments from those present many of whom said they had never enjoyed a meeting so much although many learned ministers of other Churches spoke to them each week. The Sisters received a further invitation to speak at this Church and are looking forward to their return visit.

The Merthyr Sisters appear to be conscious of the need for physical strength as well as spiritual because they also have started keep-fit classes.

ORDINATIONS :

Birmingham District
Arthur James Turvey of Northampton to Deacon
Cyril Langford of Northampton to Deacon
Frank Albert Culley of Northampton to Teacher
Wilfrid Richard Horton of Birmingham to Priest

Bristol District
Arthur John Hayling of Cheltenham to Teacher
Reginald Roy Hazell of Plymouth to Teacher
James Fredrick Turner of Plymouth to Deacon
Russell Wise of Plymouth to Teacher
Graham Vranch of Plymouth to Deacon
Raymond R. Vranch of Plymouth to Deacon
Gordon M. S. Perkin of Plymouth to Deacon
Frederick Green of Stroud to Deacon
Ivor John L. Reed of Stroud to Deacon

Hull District
William Coyn of Scarborough to Elder
Michael Reynolds of Scarborough to Teacher
Kenneth Trotter of Scarborough to Priest
Albert B. Wardle of Scarborough to Teacher
Trevor V. Staniforth of Scarborough to Priest
Peter Scott of Scarborough to Priest
David Gummer of Scarborough to Deacon
Derek Saville Adams of Scarborough to Teacher

Leeds District
Roger John Camm of Leeds to Teacher
Edward K. Wigglesworth of Leeds to Priest
John Leonard of Bradford to Teacher
George F. Watson of Dewsbury to Teacher
Jeffrey Warriner of Dewsbury to Deacon

Liverpool District
Harry Butler of Liverpool to Deacon

London District
Reginald T. Flight of Gravesend to Priest
George Alfred W. Vousden of Romford to Elder
Stanley Leonard West of Gravesend to Elder
Thomas William West of South London to Priest
Edward A. W. Hancock of South London to Deacon
John Britton Taverner of South London to Priest

Manchester District
John Kellett of Rochdale to Teacher
William George Page of Ashton-Hyde to Elder
Brian Lomas of Ashton-Hyde to Deacon
John Charles Howard of Ashton-Hyde to Deacon
David Cook of Ashton-Hyde to Deacon
Benjamin Thorpe of Ashton-Hyde to Elder

Newcastle District
Ernest Hewitt of Newcastle to Elder
Maxwell Milligan of Darlington to Elder
Stanley Worth of Darlington to Elder
John Edward Mallin of Sunderland to Deacon
John Joseph McDermott of Sunderland to Priest
Arthur Walker of Sunderland to Teacher

Norwich District
Major Donald S. Overton of Peterborough to Priest
James Robert Neal of Norwich to Priest
James E. Brookshire of Norwich to Elder
William B. Cooper of Norwich to Elder

Nottingham District
Arthur Edward Johnson of Loughborough to Priest
Terence N. Berwick of Leicester to Teacher
Rojer James Kendle of Leicester to Teacher

Scottish District
Joseph Butler Coull of Aberdeen to Elder
Thomas Andrew Watson of Paisley to Teacher
Andrew Reid Connell of Paisley to Teacher
Andrew Pursley of Paisley to Elder
A. Granger of Paisley to Teacher

Sheffield District
Kenneth Melbourne of Chesterfield to Teacher

Welsh District
Wesley Hall of Newport to Deacon
Thomas Bernard Lyons of Newport to Elder
John Drew of Merthyr-Tydfil to Teacher

Engagement

Nash-Bawker. Sister June Nash became engaged to Mr. Ray Bawker of Worcester on September 22.

Blessings

The seventh child of President and Sister Laurie of West Hartlepool was blessed by Elder Darwin S. Martell on September 31 and given the names William Darwin.

Anthony John Marples, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Marples of Lowestoft was blessed by President Aaron Jeppson on October 7.

The infant son of Sister Gwendoline and Mr. Victor F. Smart was blessed by Elder Karl Wood at Worcester on September 22, and given the names Paul Victor.

Brother and Sister Douglas Rudd of Middlesbrough welcomed a baby daughter on September 14. She was blessed and given the names Kathleen Eleanor on October 7, by Elder E. Fritz Boyer.

Deaths

Joseph Ibbotson of Wigan Branch, Liverpool District.

William Rogerson, Sr. of Preston, Liverpool District.

Beatrice Meredith Forward of the Pontypool Branch, Welsh District.

Tamar Williamson Robinson of the Oldham Branch, Manchester District.

Violetta Rose Kitchener Crabtree of the Cheltenham Branch, Bristol District.

Downes. Sister Arabella Bertha Downes, a member of the North London Branch passed away July 14, 1956. She had been a faithful member of the Church for more than fifty years and was eighty-three years of age when she died. Born in an Essex village, she accepted the Gospel when the Missionaries proselyted there at the turn of the century. She often told of that time when the parents of her husband were the only people who would take the Missionaries in against a great deal of opposition from the local residents. Only her age and slight infirmity prevented her activity in the Church until the end. She bore a strong testimony and frequently attended Church. She was buried in the Churchyard of the village of Yeldham, Essex where she had lived her early life. A service was held in the home of her son, Brother Walter Downes on July 20, conducted by Elder James P. Hill after which the remains were conveyed to Great Yeldham for the funeral. Elder Darrel Burns dedicated the grave. She is survived by her husband and two sons.

Ritchings. On August 4 the death occurred of Sister Lucy Agnes Ritchings at the age of eighty-five years. This dear sister had been a member of the Church since she was twenty years old. The last ten years of her life were spent in hospital where, because of disease in the legs it was necessary for one of them to be amputated. When she was eighty-four she acquired a new set of teeth and an artificial leg and had actually been about the hospital ward when illness finally made her succumb to her bed. A wonderful sister and a wonderful testimony to the members of the Cheltenham Branch, especially the younger ones who visited her regularly.

Whitaker. After a life of physical suffering and many years in hospital, Nellie Theresa Whitaker passed peacefully away on October 14. The Saints of the Bradford Branch unite in offering their loving sympathy to her sister Barbara, together with their admiration and appreciation for the unfaltering devotion with which she tended the sufferer these many years. They rejoice in the knowledge that Nellie has now attained to a life of renewed opportunities and clearer understanding.

Peacock. Brother Axel Christopher Peacock died on October 28 in Middlesbrough. His funeral service was conducted by President C. Elwyn Olsen in the Middlesbrough Chapel on October 31. Brother Peacock had been Branch President for the past few months and proved himself very capable and well qualified for this position.

Those having completed the British Mission Public Speaking and Teaching Course.

David Black	Dundee	Irish	October 24th, 1956
Grace Margaret Rae	Dundee	Irish	October 24th, 1956
Agness Rae Brown	Dundee	Irish	October 24th, 1956
David McKelvie Rae	Dundee	Irish	October 24th, 1956
Mary Fenton Grubb	Dundee	Irish	October 24th, 1956

MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES

ARRIVALS :

	From	*Assigned to*
October 9th, 1956		
Elder Billie Ray Anderson	Green River, Wyoming	Bristol
Elder David Rudger Ashby	Richfield, Utah	Birmingham
Elder Allen Gee Brown	Salt Lake City, Utah	Liverpool
Elder Stephen James Clark	Springville, Utah	Birmingham
Elder Joseph Nelson Hodgson	Ventura, California	London
Elder Ronald Gordon Linford	Long Beach, California	Liverpool
October 30th, 1956		
Elder Orson Lloyd Bowler	Portland, Oregon	Newcastle
Elder Gerald Bryan Drennan	San Mateo, California	Birmingham
Elder Wallace Adair Hamblin	Kanab, Utah	London
Elder Robert Harold Marshall	Glendale, California	Manchester
Elder Donald Wesley Williams	Montpelier, Idaho	London
Sister Mary Jane Groberg	Idaho Falls, Idaho	Nottingham
Sister Gayla Lloyd	Ogden, Utah	Manchester
November 6th, 1956		
Sister Janet Cotton-Betteridge	Stroud, Glos.	Leeds
Sister Gillian Mary Wheatley	Stroud, Glos.	Norwich
November 14th, 1956		
Elder Clark P. Cedarlof	Salt Lake City, Utah	Wales
Elder Albert C. Bennett	Hansen, Idaho	Scotland
Elder Willis R. Dunkley, Jr.	Ogden, Utah	Norwich
November 29th, 1956		
Elder William Paul Hyde	Salt Lake City, Utah	
Elder James L. Roberts	Tremonton, Utah	
Elder George Martin Gurney	Magrath, Alberta, Canada	
Elder Roger M. Facer	Malad, Idaho	
Elder Gary Clyde Gilbert	Salt Lake City, Utah	

TRANSFERS :

	From	*To*	*Date Effective*
Elder R. H. Bowen	Birmingham	Manchester	October 30th, 1956
Sister Barbara L. Phillips	Norwich	Leeds	October 30th, 1956
Sister Margaret Jolly	Hull	Bristol	October 30th, 1956
Sister June Garner	Nottingham	Bristol	October 30th, 1956
Sister Ludene Brown	Manchester	Hull	October 30th, 1956

APPOINTMENTS :

Elder Stephen G. McNeil appointed District President of the Irish District, October 12th, 1956.
Elder C. Elwynn Olsen appointed District President of the Newcastle District, October 26th, 1956.

RELEASES :

	From	*District*
October 13*th*, 1956		
Elder Norman Heber Jackson	Kanab, Utah	Leeds, Irish*
Elder Kelvin T. Waywell	Toronto, Ontario	Leeds, Bristol
Frances Mary Kelland	Los Angeles, California	Sheffield, Scottish, London Office†, Irish
October 12*th*, 1956		
Sister Ida Merle Nielsen	Lewiston, Utah	Nottingham, London Office Scottish
October 26*th*, 1956		
Elder William K. Daines	Brigham City, Utah	Scottish, Newcastle*
Elder Marvin L. Howard	Salt Lake City, Utah	Wales, Newcastle, London
November 1*st*, 1956		
Elder Douglas T. Snarr	Idaho Falls, Idaho	Irish, Manchester
November 9*th*, 1956		
Elder James E. Chapman	Atwater, California	Birmingham, Scottish, London
Elder Reynold G. Hair	Spanish Fork, Utah	Irish, London, Manchester
November 24*th*, 1956		
Elder Richard T. Baker	Sacramento, California	Liverpool, Leeds*
Elder Willard J. Ballantyne	Orem, Utah	Hull, Scottish
Elder Ralph Junior Gines	Pleasant Grove, Utah	Newcastle, London
Elder Tracy W. Tucker	Seattle, Washington	Hull, Norwich
Elder Karl George Wood	Provo, Utah	Birmingham*

* District President or Supervisng Elder
† Secretary to the Mission President

SISTER
FRANCES M. KELLAND

ELDER
KELVIN T. WAYWELL

ELDER
NORMAN H. JACKSON

SISTER IDA MERLE NIELSEN

ELDER WILLIAM K. DAINES

ELDER
JAMES E. CHAPMAN

ELDER
DOUGLAS T. SNARR

ELDER
MARVIN L. HOWARD

ELDER
REYNOLD G. HAIR

ELDER
RICHARD T. BAKER

ELDER
WILLARD T. BALLANTYNE

ELDER
RALPH JUNIOR GINES

ELDER
TRACY W. TUCKER

ELDER
KARL GEORGE WOOD

BAPTISMS :

Birmingham District
Leslie Arthur Rowland of Northampton
Ernest Walter Pickering of Northampton
Marjorie Wallace of Wolverhampton
Thomas Wallace of Wolverhampton
Bristol District
Edward George Wills of Bristol
Jane Moodie McGhie of Bristol
Hull District
Roland Hebden of Hull
Harold Grant of Grimsby
Elsie Hebden of Hull
Sheila Conlman of Hull
George William Wardle of Scarborough
Freda Garland d'Andilly of Hull
George d'Andilly of Hull
Pauline d'Andilly of Hull
Hazel Jessie Grant of Grimsby
Irish District
Joan Florence Farbns of Bangor
Norman Harold Farbus of Bangor
Carol Margaret Millen of Belfast
Leeds District
David William Rowe of Halifax
London District
Daphne Joyce Britton of Gravesend
Shelagh Ann Dyer of Brighton
Manchester District
Ella Scott of Wythenshawe
Margaret Mason of Wythenshawe
Joan Margaret Teale of Rochdale
Philip Teale of Rochdale
Constance Mary Kenyon Hoyle of Rochdale
Barbara Mary Woodhead of Rochdale
June Elizabeth Teale of Rochdale
Newcastle District
John Edward Mallin of Sunderland
Edith Alice M. Malling of Sunderland
Joan Nelson of Sunderland
David Robert Nelson of Sunderland
Derek Smith of Sunderland
Julie Rosemary Gray of Newcastle
Lilian Alice Stokes of South Shields
James Albany Price of Sunderland
Mary Elizabeth Ann Price of Sunderland
Brian Smith of Sunderland
Norwich District
Paul Raymond Runacres of Lowestoft
Colin Aldred of Lowestoft
Doreen May Moss of Gorleston
Edna Mary Browning of Southend
Rosa Catherine Margetson of Gorleston
John Edward Margetson of Gorleston
Nottingham District
Susan Margaret Porter of Leicester
Susan Josephine Bray of Leicester
Lorraine McDermott of Leicester
Marilyn Lesley Sullivan of Leicester
George Stevenson of Nottingham
Margaret Ann Sawyer of Derby
Peter Lawrence Sanders of Derby
David John Morley of Loughborough
Jennifer Morley of Loughborough
Scottish District
Douglas Thomson of Airdrie
Helen Donaldson Thomson of Airdrie
Georgina Ellen Pollock of Airdrie
Irene Helen Thomson of Airdrie
David Kerr Day of Edinburgh
Rhoma Marie Martin of Airdrie
John Inqnieti of Airdrie
Hugh Alexander Inqnieti of Airdrie
Arthur Inquieti of Airdrie
Welsh District
Glora Jnne Davies of Merthyr-Tydfil

AND while we meditated upon these things, the Lord touched the eyes of our understandings and they were opened, and the glory of the Lord shone round about.

And we beheld the glory of the Son, on the right hand of the Father, and received of His fullness;

And saw the holy angels, and them who are sanctified before His throne, worshiping God, and the Lamb, who worship Him for ever and ever.

And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of Him: That He lives!

For we saw Him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that He is the Only Begotten of the Father——

That by Him, and through Him, and of Him, the worlds are and were created, and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:19-24

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